

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 are presently active; Claims 11 and 30 have been presently amended.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-29 were indicated as being allowed. Claims 30-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Firstly, Applicant's representative acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowed Claims 1-29.

Secondly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, Claim 30 has been amended as suggested in the Office Action. Having no rejection on the merits, Claims 30-45 are believed to be in a condition for allowance.

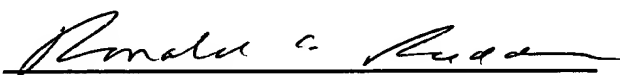
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
JJK:RAR:clh


James J. Kulbaski
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 34,648
Ronald A. Rudder, Ph. D.
Registration No. 45,618